

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 20 and 24 are amended. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found at least at pages 17, 20, 21 and 25 of the specification. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. Personal Interview on June 11, 2010

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Blackwell and Hutton at the interview held June 11, 2010, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

II. Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 17-20 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0198904 (Robles) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,790,119 (Sklut); and rejects claims 14-16 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Robles in view of Sklut and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0039647 (Roche). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the interview, the applied references fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "the linking information making section makes the linking information in accordance with the linked first and second icons in the third window and makes the linking information without specifying a service processing device," as recited by independent claim 1 and similarly recited by independent claim 24; "making the linking information in accordance with the linked icons and without specifying a service processing device," as recited by independent claim 2 and similarly recited by independent claims 3 and 20.

The Office Action alleges that Robles discloses the linking information making section as claimed above. In particular, Robles discloses at paragraphs [0041] and [0044] and in Figs. 12 and 13 that a user first selects a service class of printers with a printer dialog box, and then selects a specific printer device based on the printers available in the dialog box.

However, Robles merely discloses a user compiling a list of specific printers to use. Thus, Robles fails to disclose that a linking information making section makes linking information without specifying a service processing device, as recited by independent claims 1 and 24. For similar reasons, Robles also fails to disclose the above-quoted features of independent claims 2, 3 and 20. The remaining references fail to at least cure the above deficiencies of Robles.

As agreed to during the interview, the applied references also fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "the interface information includes a predetermined parameter restriction rule which restricts an input and an output to a particular device," as recited by independent claim 1; "the interface information further including a predetermined parameter restriction rule which restricts an input and an output to a particular device," as recited by independent claim 2 and similarly recited by independent claims 3 and 24; and "the user operation includes a predetermined parameter restriction rule which restricts an input and an output to a particular device," as recited by independent claim 20.

Robles merely discloses at paragraph [0028] the selection of various devices to construct a production plan. However, Robles does not disclose that each production plan also includes a parameter restriction rule which restricts various inputs and outputs, as recited by the independent claims. Thus, because Robles does not disclose creating limitations on what can be done with each service in connection with specific devices, Robles fails to disclose the above-quoted feature of the independent claims. The remaining references fail to at least cure this deficiency of Robles.

As agreed to during the interview, the applied references also fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "the linking information includes a control structure, a logical operation and an arithmetic operation," as recited by independent claim 1; "the linking information includes a control structure, a logical operation and an arithmetic operation," as recited by independent claim 2 and similarly recited by independent claims 3, 20 and 24.

Robles and Sklut merely disclose selecting various processing devices for the compiling and making of a work flow. However, neither reference discloses reading an information/linking information that uses various programming language techniques, as directed to by the independent claims. Roche fails to cure this deficiency of Robles and Sklut.

Therefore, independent claims 1-3, 20 and 24 are patentable over the applied references. Claims 4-19 and 21-23 are patentable for their various dependencies from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features the claims recite.

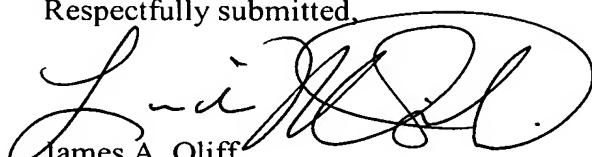
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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